

**What is claimed is:**

1. A method to prevent wound progression and enhance wound healing for stage 1 and stage 2 wounds by irradiating said stage 1-2 wound with directed non-ablative electromagnetic radiation.
2. A method to prevent wound progression and enhance wound healing according to claim 1, wherein said method uses non-ablative electromagnetic radiation having a power density of at least about  $1 \text{ W/cm}^2$  for a preselected time of exposure in a range from 1 second to 3 minutes.
3. A method to prevent wound progression and enhance wound healing according to claim 2, wherein said method uses non-ablative electromagnetic radiation operating at one or more wavelengths in a range from 193 nm to  $10.6 \mu\text{m}$ .
4. A method to prevent wound progression and enhance wound healing according to claim 3, wherein said method uses non-ablative electromagnetic radiation operating at one or more wavelengths in a range from 193 nm to  $3 \mu\text{m}$ .
5. A method to prevent wound progression and enhance wound healing according to claim 3, wherein said method uses a coherent source of directed non-ablative electromagnetic radiation.
6. A method to prevent wound progression and enhance wound healing according to claim 3, wherein said method uses a non-coherent source of directed non-ablative electromagnetic radiation.
7. A method to prevent wound progression and enhance wound healing according to claim 2, wherein said method uses at least one optical fiber connected to a source of electromagnetic radiation to irradiate said wound.

8. A method to prevent wound progression and enhance wound healing according to claim 1, comprising a preliminary step of selecting said stage 1-2 wound from a group consisting of: spider bites, other insect bites, bee stings, rashes, poison ivy, poison oak, acne, psoriasis, and eczema.
9. A method to prevent wound progression and enhance wound healing according to claim 2, wherein said method uses non-ablative radiation having an average power between 1 Watt and 20 Watts.
10. A method to prevent wound progression and enhance wound healing according to claim 9, wherein said method uses non-ablative radiation preferably having an average power between 5 and 10 W.
11. A method to prevent wound progression and enhance wound healing according to claim 1, wherein said method prevents wound progression and enhances healing as effectively for patients with diabetes and other conditions that inhibit natural wound healing as said method does for normal patients.
12. A method to prevent wound progression and enhance wound healing according to claim 1, wherein said method also includes eradicating bacteria and viral bodies, thereby preventing infection.
13. A method to prevent wound progression and enhance wound healing according to claim 2, wherein said method involves applying said non-ablative radiation in a spiral pattern, starting at an edge and converging on a center of a wounded area.